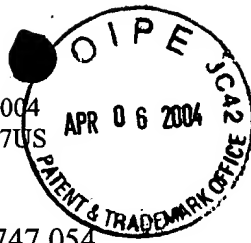


Application No. 09/747,054
Amendment Mailed April 06, 2004
Express Mail No. EV406651907US
Page 1 of 11



#17C
4/15/04
AW

Application No.: 09/747,054
Applicant: Bulka et al.
Filed: December 22, 2000
TC/A.U. 2175
Examiner: Mahmoudi, Hassan
Docket No.: 40921/206279 (1301-003)
Customer No.: 26108

Confirmation No.: 1574

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and Express Mail**

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION
IN SUPPORT OF RCE FILED**

Sir:

This paper is responsive to an Advisory Action dated February 17, 2004, and based on a Final Office Action dated November 6, 2003, with a period set to respond after a two month extension of time by April 6, 2004. No additional claim fees are believed to be due.

A Petition for Two (2) Month Extension of Time is attached together with payment in the amount of \$420 for the extension fee.

Status as of the Mailing of the Office Action dated November 6, 2003

Claims 1 – 15 were pending before the Office Action.

Claims 1 – 15 are rejected.

No claims are allowed.

No claims are objected to.

Amendments to the Specification (None).

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings (None).

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

Appendix (None).